

**ALASKA DAILY EMPIRE**J. F. A. STRONG.  
TELEPHONE 3-74

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JUNEAU, ALASKA, NOV. 5, 1912.

**ALASKA AND "THE SPIRIT."**

Alaska is a rich land. Its natural resources are really just beginning to be appreciated in part. The idea that it is a waste, howling wilderness, a region of eternal snow and ice, inhabited mainly by polar bears and eskimo, is gradually disappearing. But dense ignorance still exists in many parts of these United States concerning this territory.

But we are making a little progress all the time in the way of enlightening our fellow citizens elsewhere. They now know something about our gold and copper production. Alaska cannot calmon be found all around the world, though there still are people who think it comes from Oregon. Our coal deposits have attracted wide attention and have created much controversy. They are still with us in their virgin state, to be sure, but we still hope that in the not distant future they will be of some use to Alaska and the whole Pacific Coast.

Alaska furnishes a substantial market for the manufactured products of the United States, and Seattle, in a great measure, owes its rise, progress and what prosperity it enjoys to this territory. Of course this statement will be believed but by few people of that city. They lay the flattering unction to their souls that the "Seattle Spirit" has worked the wonders and performed the miracles. They would not have us tell it in Alaska, publish it in the streets of the Elliott bay city or pin it to the Alaska totem pole that stands in Pioneer square.

Great was Diana of the Ephesians, but in the Seattle mind, greater is the Spirit.

Furthermore you may have noticed that the "Spirit" withers are mightily wrung when it finds that it is not getting all that it thinks it should from the Alaska people.

**SEVEN BIG QUESTIONS.**

According to former Senator Henry Clay Hansbrough, of North Dakota, there are seven big questions confronting the next president. Mr. Hansbrough claims credit for putting the Louisiana lottery out of commission; putting the Harvester trust on the griddle; putting the national irrigation law on the statute books. It will be noticed that he has, therefore, done some putting in his time, and is still ready for further action, although North Dakota retired him, notwithstanding these accomplishments in the way of national legislation.

But as to the seven big problems which the senator says confront the next president:

He says he would place the trusts at the head of the list, for the truth is the nation is trust-sick, and those who are responsible for the trusts are beginning to realize that something is radically wrong.

Next in Senator Hansbrough's mind is the tariff, and he adds that both the Republican and Democratic parties are committed to a just and equitable revision, and they are not so very far apart, he thinks, as to the measure of protection to be provided.

Monetary reform comes next. The government, says the Senator, is getting further and further away from Wall street every day, this being due in a large part to the business-like policy of the present secretary of the treasury.

Foreign questions are fourth in the Senator's category, and on this subject he says: "No one who has had legislative experience and participated in the secret debates of the Senate would presume to discuss in advance the nation's foreign relations, for it is a subject possessing many delicate aspects. Hence the very great importance of having a steady hand at the helm of state."

Constitutional changes, sociology and conservation in the Senator's opinion are next in order, the two latter being so closely allied with the trust question that they cannot well be considered apart from it.

**CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS**

There is one phase of the presidential campaign just closed which is worthy of more than passing comment. It embraces the subject of campaign contributions this year. It is stated on good authority that the total contributions to the Democratic,

Republican and Progressive campaign funds have fallen hundreds of thousands of dollars short of the Roosevelt campaign fund in 1904. Up to Oct. 27 there had been 53,303 contributors to the \$667,460 Wilson fund, an average of only \$13 each. In 1904 73½ per cent of the total Roosevelt contributions came from corporations. Nothing measures the distance that progressive government has traveled, says the New York World, in these eight years better than the difference between the campaign funds of 1904 and the campaign funds of 1912.

**FISHER AND THE COAL LANDS.**

Secretary of the Interior Fisher has announced his intention to "wipe off the slate" in the matter of the Alaska coal land controversy, before March 4. He adds that there will be no coal patents issued to anyone if he gets "his fingers on them before March 4."

Taking an absolutely dispassionate view of the Alaska coal land embroglio we can come to no other conclusion than that a grave injustice has been done to a number of the Alaska coal claimants. That there has been collusion and fraud in some cases is evident; but it does not seem to be reasonable that every man who entered upon 160 acres of coal land is a thief, a perjurer or a fraud. In fact a not inconsiderable number of these men stand just a high in their respective communities as does Mr. Fisher in his; they would not steal any part of the public domain knowingly or wilfully.

Viewed from any standpoint one cannot but reach the conclusion that it is high time, however, that this most vexatious problem received a sane solution. The whole Alaskan coast has suffered because of it, and will continue to suffer until the great coal fields of this territory are opened up and developed commercially. Alaska and the Pacific Coast need the coal, and the industries which would follow the development of the product of Alaska's coal measures.

**POLITICS AND RELIGION.**

A Seattle clergyman finds himself the unhappy possessor of a \$25,000 The libel, and we regret to note it, pendage. A \$25,000 bequest from a rich uncle would be far more pleasant—and profitable.

The libel, and we regret to note it, was the result of politics and religious faith, a mixture, we submit that ought not to find a place in our political economy. Fortunately in America the religious faith of men seeking public office has seldom been called in question.

A man's religious belief is his own. It is with him, or it should be at least, a matter of conscience. A man has also an indubitable right to his political belief. Should he be lampooned or libeled because of it? Would straight-thinking people deem it fair, decent or honorable? But the matter of one's religious belief is a far more sacred matter. There is good in every religion that has stood the test of time. Without it this world would not have progressed as it has. And at that strange and lamentable things have been done in the name of religion, that have not been creditable to religion's cause.

A story is told of the celebrated Dean Swift which illustrates the length to which religious bigotry has gone in times past. The dean was traveling through a part of Ireland where religious bitterness had reached a high development. He came to a church over the door of which was written:

"A Turk, Jew or heathen may enter here, but not a papist." Dean Swift read the inscription carefully, and taking his quill pen and inkhorn from his pocket underneath it he wrote: "Whoever wrote this wrote it well, for the same is written on the gates of hell."

But that was in a day of bitter religious intolerance. We have gone forward since that period.

**THE CRIPPLED TURK.**

The allied enemies of the Turk are near the gates of Constantinople we were told in yesterday's dispatches. From the same source we are informed that the European powers are hurrying pell mell, helter skelter to the aid of the Turk, in that they are endeavoring to mediate between the Turks and their foes and open negotiations for the establishment of peace. The Sublime Porte has asked the intervention of the powers because Turkey finds that she cannot withstand the impetuous assaults of the allied forces.

And the powers know now as they have all the time known that the "integrity" of Turkey must not be impaired. That country's position in Europe is due solely to the alleged Christian nations of Europe. Their financial interests in Turkey are the sole, impelling cause. But for the money question the Turk would have been driven out of Europe a century or more ago. But because of the European financial interests in Turkey she has been allowed to main-

tain herself in face of murderous outrages on her non-Moslem subjects that have made the rest of the world shudder in horror.

Turkey has been often told that she must effect reforms in her subject provinces, and as often has she promised immediate compliance. Frequently the promised reforms have been made with fire and sword. And still the powers have blinked and nodded—the money power is the greater.

Turkey has just emerged from a disastrous war with Italy and is crippled financially; her navy is a farce. At Beirut, in Syria, last March, Italian warships sank two gunboats in that harbor. It might have been done with modern firearms at a long distance. The armor plate of the Turkish gunboats is only boiler plate. That incident illustrates in a fair measure the warships of the Ottoman navy.

But the concert of the European powers will be unanimous. Turkey must be saved for the European money kings have so ordained. And her Christian provinces and redressing their wrongs by fire and sword, and will continue in the same old way.

**THE VILLAGE TIGHTWAD.**

A young country merchant who had something of a reputation for close figuring was especially attentive to the village schoolmarm. The young woman had a sweet tooth, and was not at all reticent about making the fact known. Accordingly, she hinted to her admirer that a box of chocolates would be greatly appreciated on the occasion of his next visit. Later the suggestion was repeated and again duly heeded. The third time the subject was broached, however, the dispenser of sweets turned a deaf ear to the entreaty.

"I don't know about takin' that girl any more candy," he confided to a companion next day. "She's owing me 60 cents for chocolates already." —Ex.

**SIDELIGHTS**

Traveling in a German railway train one day last winter the writer engaged in conversation (bad German and worse English) with a German professional man, who entered a compartment of the car. He was loquacious in the extreme and was greatly interested in America and Americans. Finally he asked what part of America we came from. Alaska, he was told.

"Ach!" he said, in mixed German and English, "der land of gold." Then he was told of the Pacific Coast. San Francisco he had heard of. Seattle? "Nein, nein," he shook his head while its location was laboriously explained to him. The name and the fame of the city which Alaska has built up he had never heard of.

Some of the numerous national election forecasters will know today how it feels to be funnier than they intended to be.

If Alaska does not have a creditable first territorial legislature it will not be because there was a lack of good timber. It will be the people's fault, not the candidates.

Well there's something to be thankful for in the fact that Seattle's two leading commercial bodies don't see all dollars alike.

The Seattle Chamber of Commerce, it may not be known, has an "Alaska Bureau." Now, we really wonder what important functional duties it performs that are of benefit to Alaska?

President Taft favors Governor Hadley, of Missouri, as the successor of the late Vice President Sherman. The selection is an excellent one. Gov. Hadley is a clean, able man, who in the opinion of many loomed large in the Republican National Convention at Chicago. Next to Senator Elihu Root he was by far the ablest and most conspicuous figure in that great gathering. Alert, brilliant, well-poised, he made a clean-cut fight for the nomination of Roosevelt, but when the smoke of the convention battle had cleared away he refused to follow the Colonel and become a Bull Moose, choosing, rather to suffer affliction with the Republican party than to enjoy the pleasures of browsing around in the Moose pastures. Governor Hadley will yet be heard from in the national politics.

The women of the states of Washington and California enjoyed their first voting privileges in a national election today. Wonder how many of them will get their ballots on straight?

Fred Garner, of Juneau, has a well-preserved copy of the first issue of the Nome News, published Oct. 9, 1899, which he prizes highly. It is

a four-page, four-column sheet, and on the editorial page the announcement is made that the News "will be delivered to subscribers at \$2 per month, or \$24 a year, in advance; price of single copies 50 cents each." The advertising rates are quoted at \$20 per inch a month. The News was published weekly until the following summer when it became a daily.

Alaska today enters upon a new epoch in her somewhat peculiar and tortuous history. As history goes yesterday it was a Russian province, but today it is a full-fledged territory of the United States, its legislative powers dating from today. And at that we think that the recognition was slow in coming. But imagine, if you can, what Alaska would have been today were it still under the Russian flag. Gifford Pinchot's wildest dreams of conservation would not have been a marker for the close season that would have prevailed all the year round, except to the favored few.

**SPECIAL TERM OF COURT.**

In the District Court for the District of Alaska, Division No. 1, At Juneau.

In the Matter of Calling a Special December, 1912, Term of Court at Juneau.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to an order of the Honorable Thomas R. Lyons, District Judge for the District of Alaska, Division No. 1, made on the 4th day of November, 1912, at Juneau, Alaska, a SPECIAL TERM of the DISTRICT COURT will be held at the United States Court House at Juneau, Alaska, beginning on Monday, the NINTH DAY OF DECEMBER, 1912, at the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon of said day.

E. W. PETTIT, Clerk of the District Court for the District of Alaska, Division No. 1. Dated and published at Juneau, Alaska, this 5th day of November, A. D. 1912.

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\*This trip to Sheep Creek daily except 4:30 p. m. trip on Saturday, which is omitted and trips leaving Juneau at 6:30 p. m. and 11:00 a. m. are made instead, and Sheep Creek trips at 11:00 a. m., 6:30 p. m., and 11:00 p. m.

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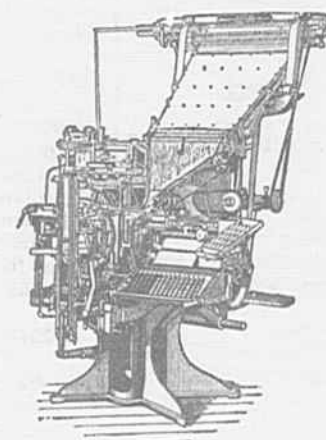
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